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### Summary

*“No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in consequence of the appropriations made by law; and a regular statement of account of receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time.”*

#### **- U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 9, Clause 7**

The U.S. Constitution grants Congress sole power of the purse. Congress has carried out this duty since the birth of the Republic; however over time the manner in which Congress has carried out this duty has evolved.

In 1789, a single appropriations bill, totaling \$639,000, supported all of our young nation's needs. At that time, the appropriations function was the responsibility of the *Committee on Ways and Means*, which Congress established that same year.

